



# Newsletter

**October 2023**

### Dates for your Diary

- Halloween dress up day - Tuesday 31st October
- Dad's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 14th November 5.30-7pm
- Children's Christmas Show - Friday 8th December 9.30am
- Closedown period 23rd December 2022 to 7th January 2023 inclusive



### Important Messages

Please reach out to family and friends with children and encourage them to join our kindergarten community

Please provide feedback to support our curriculum and planning

## Programme Highlights

### Supporting Culture

This month we celebrated both the Tongan and Maori and language weeks. Children extended their knowledge of these languages at mat times and music times and through sharing books together. We celebrated the Tongan and Maori cultures through legends, cultural resources and art and craft activities, taking the opportunity to revisit some of our cultural day learning.

### ENGAGE Programme

We have continued to actively include lots of ENGAGE games within our programme throughout September and we have been really heartened by the level of engagement and obvious enjoyment from the children. We have all had a lot of fun. We have spent time focusing on each of the focus areas

including emotional skills, cognitive/thinking skills and behavioural skills.

Our teaching team attended another professional learning course in September to support us in further extending the use of these games in practice. We are looking forward to continuing our focus on this programme and seeing the impact that this has on our children's self regulation skills over time.

### Glue Gun Creations

Our glue gun table has been a hive of activity over the last month with children busy creating lots of individual and group art projects. We can barely keep up with the provision of resources to support them in making their ideas come to life.

This is a great activity to refine fine motor skills, hand eye coordination and strengthen

hand muscles. The glue gun requires children to pull the trigger back fairly hard and manipulate the glue to land in the right spot. This development is important in supporting children to gain the skills needed to grip a pencil when learning to write.

We are starting to see more children working on small projects and revisiting their work, creating more complex creations. By doing this we are able to support them to extend on their ideas and revisit their learning in a really positive and meaningful way.

If any families have any resources to share with us for the children to use on the glue gun table please bring them along to kindy and we will put them to good use.

## Grandparent Day

This month we celebrated our annual Grandparent Day on Tuesday 19th September. The children shared a lovely morning with all of their wonderful grandparents or special family members showing them all the things that they enjoy doing at kindy, introducing them to

friends and sharing their portfolios. We all enjoyed sharing some music together in the sunshine followed by a special morning tea.

We captured lots of lovely photos to include in our children's portfolios.

Thank you to all of our grandparents who spent the



morning with us creating a wonderful memory for your grandchild to treasure always.



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## CHILD'S VOICE

Immersing ourselves in the world of children every day means that we have the privilege of experiencing some magical moments that make us laugh.

One of our children got a blood nose recently while at kindy. While assisting the child Ms Bloem was casually asked 'Did you know that bogies are green?'

**KINDNESS**  
is a gift  
everyone can  
afford to give.

## Upcoming Events

**Halloween Dress up Day - Tuesday 31st October:**

Dressing up is always a popular interest with our children so we are hosting a dress up day for Halloween and plan to enjoy some fun Halloween inspired activities.

**Dad's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 14th November 5.30-7pm:**

Our annual Dad's sausage sizzle evening will be held on Tuesday 14th November. Children are invited to bring along their Dad or other significant person (Grandad, Uncle etc) for an evening of fun at kindergarten. This is a great opportunity for Dad's to see what their children love about kindergarten and to meet other Dads.

**Children's Christmas Show - Friday 8th December 9.30am:**

Our Christmas Show will be held on Friday 8th December at 9.30am in the St Lukes Church followed by morning tea at kindergarten. Please book this date in your calendar and join us for a morning of celebration at kindergarten. All family and extended family welcome.

**We would love your feedback on our newsletter. Please email us at [littletreehouse.co.nz](mailto:littletreehouse.co.nz)**

## Communication Corner

- **Availability:** We continue to have some limited availability over the next few months so if families require any further support with short term additional days in the lead up to Christmas please get in touch. With lots of children leaving in the new year to head to school we have availability in the new year so please help us to spread the word amongst friends and family with children as we would love them to join our kindergarten community.
- **Feedback:** An important part of our curriculum is obtaining parent / whanau voice on your child's development and what we are doing at kindergarten. We encourage families to provide feedback on our curriculum, self reviews and what is happening at kindergarten. Feedback on learning stories is a good way to acknowledge your child's development and share stories and links with what they are doing at home. Please use the 'feedback' option on the parent portal to do this in an efficient way. Parent teacher meetings are another way to share your views. By providing feedback we can ensure that we best support your child's development at kindergarten.
- **Kindness Collective Christmas gift giving:** We would like to continue our support of the Kindness Collective again this year by providing Christmas gifts for children attending an early childhood centre in Homai (Manurewa, Auckland) this Christmas. We supported this same centre last year with amazing support from our families. Sharing the message of kindness towards others with our children is an important part of our kindergarten values. We encourage families to get involved by donating a gift and reinforcing the message of kindness at home. More information about this initiative will be sent to families soon.
- **Toilet training:** With the summer months approaching families may be considering toilet training. We like to provide consistency at kindy with what you are doing at home so please let us know if you are starting the toilet training process so we can support you. Some useful tips are available on the Parenting Place website.
- **Greeting of the Month:** Our greeting this month is the Sri Lankan greeting Ayubowan in support of Ms Hesh's cultural heritage.
- **Policies:** Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Staff Safety Checking and Pandemic policies with no notable changes. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

## Farewell

Luciana Herron  
Indi Bowring  
Jasper Sanders

OCTOBER 2023